

REMARKS

In the Office Action the Examiner noted that claims 1-20 were pending in the application and the Examiner rejected all claims. By this Amendment, various claims have been amended. Thus, claims 1-20 are pending in the application. The Examiner's rejections are traversed below.

The Prior Office Action and Amendment

In the Amendment filed in response to the prior Office Action, applicants urged that independent claims 1, 4 and 5 distinguished over the prior art for the following reasons:

1. It was urged that a cell phone cannot be considered to provide a page-by-page display, and that the claimed invention is directed to a viewer in which a full page of text is shown to a user at one time.

2. It was urged that in Kobayashi the transmission speed is too low to read the contents of a book on a page-by-page basis. In particular, it was urged that in Kobayashi the content is not converted to an intermediate data file, so that it takes about one second to transmit the content of about 20 pages. It was further urged that because the contents are not converted to intermediate data, the display pages are difficult to read because a space is inserted between adjacent pages when the content is to be scrolled or when the content is to be read page-by-page.

3. With respect to claim 4, it was urged that Kobayashi does not teach or suggest the claimed portable server division "for storing book-type contents having page-by-page information containing at least images or characters, and transmitting said book-type contents to a portable viewer division wirelessly, said portable server division and said portable viewer division being capable of being carried by a single user."

4. With respect to claim 5, it was urged that Kobayashi does not teach or suggest the claimed "portable viewer division, that can be carried in a container by a user, for displaying book-type contents having page-by-page information containing at least either images or characters which are sent wirelessly from a portable server division page-by-page, said portable server division and said portable viewer division being capable of being carried by the user."

The Examiner's New Rejection and Response to Arguments

In item 3 starting on page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner has issued a new rejection of claims 1-7, 12, 15-17 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,633,759 to Kobayashi in view of U.S. Patent 6,553,410 to Kikinis.

The Examiner's response to the above arguments is presented in the Response to Arguments section 2 on pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action. The Examiner also provides additional comments with the new rejection of independent claims 1, 4 and 5 on pages 4 and 5 of the Office Action.

In response to argument 1, the Examiner takes the position that the features directed to a viewer in which a full page of text is shown to a user at one time is not recited in the rejected claims. In this regard, claims 1, 4 and 5 have been amended to recite that a full page is displayed.

With respect to argument 2 relating to the low transmission speed of Kobayashi, the Examiner takes the position on the bottom of page 2 that the "claims do not include a content of PDF document or a transmission rate of 16 Mbps." The Examiner's comments do not address the applicants' prior arguments relating to converting the content into an intermediate data file. In particular, claim 1 recites:

means for converting a data file into an intermediate data file
constituted by a part of information in an image in which a page
constitutes a unit; and
means for transferring the intermediate data file so converted to
said portable viewer division.

Applicants do not see anything in the Examiner's comments on page 3 relating to the claimed intermediate file. In the first paragraph on page 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner may be relying on Kikinis as showing this feature, although the Examiner does not explicitly describe how Kikinis discloses means for converting a data file into an intermediate file constituted by a part of information in an image in which a page constitutes a unit.

With respect to argument 3, the Examiner on page 4 of the Office Action appears to take the position that Figure 9 of Kobayashi illustrates a PC1 and a cellular phone 2 which can be carried in a briefcase.

With respect to argument 4 above, the Examiner appears to rely on Kobayashi in the same manner described above with respect to claim 4.

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 Patentably Distinguish Over the Prior Art

The Examiner takes the position that the PC1 in Fig. 9 of Kobayashi corresponds to the claimed portable server division, while the cellular phone 2 in Fig. 9 corresponds to a portable viewer division. However, applicants submit that a cell phone cannot be considered to display book-type contents "page-by-page." In contrast, the claimed invention is directed to a viewer in which a full page of text is shown to a user at one time. Such a page-by-page display is not possible with a cell phone. Claims 1, 4 and 5 have been amended to clarify this difference between the claims and the prior art.

As previously explained, in Kobayashi, the transmission speed is too low to read the contents of a book on a page-by-page basis. For example, when the content of a document of a PDF file is to be transmitted at a transmission rate of 16 Mbps, if, as in Kobayashi, the content is not converted into an intermediate data file, it takes about one second to transmit the content of about 20 pages. However, in order for a user to be able to browse the entire content without noticing the rewriting time, the displayed time must be shortened to within approximately 0.3 seconds. If the contents are not converted into intermediate data, the displayed pages will be difficult to read because a space is inserted between adjacent pages when the content is to be scrolled or when the content is to be read page-by-page.

Applicants assume that the Examiner may now be relying on the Kikinis reference as showing features relating to an intermediate file. Kikinis teaches a first set of files transported into a second set of files fewer in number than the first set of files. In contrast, the intermediate file as set forth in claim 1 is constituted by a part of information in an image in which a page constitutes a unit. In order to reduce the transfer time, the intermediate data file is configured so that contents are layered in consideration of the book browsing method of users as described at page 10, lines 3-8 of the specification. Thus, the number of files is not reduced in accordance with the subject application. By configuring the intermediate file to be layered, the number of files is actually increased somewhat. However, by sending the layered data, a reader does not have to be kept waiting long before the information is displayed on the viewer division, as described at page 4, lines 17-19 of the specification.

Referring to the specific claim language of claim 1, it is submitted that Kobayashi and Kikinis do not teach or suggest the claimed portable electronic viewer system which comprises:

a portable server division, that can be carried in a container by a user, transmitting and receiving book-type contents having page-by-page information containing at least either images or characters; and

a portable viewer division, that can be carried by the user carrying said portable server division, displaying said book-type contents transmitted from said portable server division page-by-page so that a full page is displayed;

said portable server division including:

means for converting a data file into an intermediate data file constituted by a part of information in an image in which a page constitutes a unit; and

means for transferring the intermediate data file so converted to said portable viewer division.

Therefore, it is submitted that claim 1 patentably distinguishes over the prior art.

Referring to claim 4, it is submitted that Kobayashi does not teach or suggest the claimed portable server division "for storing book-type contents having page-by-page information containing at least either images or characters, and transmitting said book-type contents to a portable viewer division wirelessly for a page-by-page display, with a full page being displayed at one time, said portable server division and said portable viewer division being capable of being carried by a single user." Therefore, it is submitted that claim 4 patentably distinguishes over the prior art.

Referring to claim 5, it is submitted that Kobayashi does not teach or suggest the claimed "portable viewer division, that can be carried in a container by a user, for displaying book-type contents having page-by-page information containing at least either images or characters which are sent wirelessly from a portable server division page-by-page, said portable server division and said portable viewer division being capable of being carried by the user, said portable viewer division providing a page-by-page display with a full page being displayed at one time." Therefore, it is submitted that claim 5 patentably distinguishes over the prior art.

Claims 2, 3, 6, 7, 12, 15-17 and 19 depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 1 and include all the features of that claim plus additional features which are not taught or suggested by Kobayashi. Therefore, it is submitted that claims 2, 3, 6, 7, 12, 15-17 and 19 patentably distinguish over the prior art.

Rejections of Claims 9, 13, 14, 18 and 20

On pages 9-14 of the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 9, 13, 14, 18 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as unpatentable over various combinations of Kobayashi, U.S. Patent 6,553,410 to Kikinis, U.S. Patent 6,119,135 to Helfman, U.S. Patent 6,477,579 to Kunkel et al., U.S. Patent 6,601,108 to Marmor, U.S. Patent 6,728,785 to Jungck and U.S. Patent 4,734,920 to Betts.

Claims 9, 13, 14, 18 and 20 depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 1 and include all the features of that claim plus additional features which are not taught or suggested by the prior art. Further, none of the additional references relied on by the Examiner teach or suggest the features of the present claimed invention as set forth in independent claims 1, 4 or 5. Therefore, it is submitted that claims 9, 13, 14, 18 and 20 patentably distinguish over the prior art.

Entry Of This Amendment

It is submitted that the claim amendments being made are mere amplifications of features which have already been discussed and argued in the subject application. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that these amendments be entered in the application.

Summary

It is submitted that none of the references, either taken alone or in combination teach the present claimed invention. Thus, claims 1-20 are deemed to be in a condition suitable for allowance. Reconsideration of the claims and an early notice of allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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